Dear Carers and Parents,

It is with a heavy heart that I write my final newsletter for Prospect Creek State School. Over the past year, I have become highly attached to this school and I speak with confidence when I say that this is by far the best school community I have had the pleasure of working with. It is the families of Prospect Creek who make this such a great place for the staff and students to be every day and I wish to thank all of you for your continued support and contributions over the past 12 months.

As you would be aware, Mrs Jo Northey, current principal of Wowan State School, will be taking over from me as of Monday of next week. I have worked closely with Mrs Northey over the first 6 months of the year, as Wowan S.S is a part of our small school’s cluster. This is fantastic news as it means that Mrs Northey is not only familiar with the wider local community but is also familiar with our school’s goals in particular our Explicit Teaching agenda, and how they sit in with the expectations of the Central Queensland region. I have been impressed with what Mrs Northey has been able to achieve at Wowan S.S and I feel at ease knowing the high level of energy and enthusiasm she brings with her as both a teacher and a principal. Please join me in welcoming her.

I will miss the ever-supportive staff, students and families of Prospect Creek State School a great deal and I am confident that the school will maintain it’s fantastic achievements, high expectations, and impressive reputation for as long as it stands. I have been extremely lucky to have been a part of its history.

Gregg Savage.

STUDENTS OF THE TERM

Congratulations to the following students who received the awards for ‘Student of the Term’. These awards are given to students who may have ‘stood out’ regarding their achievements for the term and it was safe to say that, this term in particular, it was extremely to narrow it down. For term two, the awards go to:

P-2: Paige Wickham
4-7: Ebony Labuschewski

Please let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the numerous achievements made by all students this term. The students have remained disciplined through NAPLAN, shows, sports days, speech competitions, classes being moved about the school, renovations, assignments, reading groups... the list goes on! Well done Prossie!

REPORT CARDS HOME TODAY

Students will receive their report cards with their newsletters today and I would like to congratulate the students on their fine academic achievements. Please refer to the information in the following pages regarding the breakdown of how students’ grades are distributed following the release of Version 3.0 of the new Australian Curriculum.

PORT CURTIS TRIALS

Best of luck to Ebony, Grace, Charli, Shakira, and Cameron who will be representing Callide Valley Small Schools at the Port Curtis trials at Redeemer State School tomorrow. The students have continued their training throughout the week and they will know that they have Prossie Creek cheering them on from the other side of town!

YEAR 7 HIGH SCHOOL VISIT

Our school captain and Year 7 student Ebony Labuschewski visited the high school for an entire day of activities this week. Ebony took part in woodwork, art, drama, and SOSE lessons on the day and even came back to school with a pencil holder she made in wood work!

TERM 3 CENT SALE

Due to the success of last year’s Cent Sale, PCSS will be hosting a Cent Sale at a date to be announced in Term 3. This notice is to let you know that we would like our families to START COLLECTING, CREATING or COLLECTING potential prizes for the cent sale. Whether it’s crocheting a beanie, creating an art piece or donating some wanted prizes, you can feel free to leave donations at the school.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:
PROSPECT CREEK STATE SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR PARENTS

Several parents have expressed their interest in ordering an ‘adult sized’ version of our school uniform in order to wear them on days such as the Jambin Sports Day. We will be placing an order early next term for these shirts so please contact the office during school hours to place your order.

Sincerely,

Gregg Savage
2013 SCHOOL CALENDER

Term 1  Tuesday 29th January - Thursday 28th March  9 weeks
Term 2  Monday 15th April - Friday 21st June  10 weeks
Term 3  Monday 8th July - Friday 20th September  11 weeks
Term 4  Tuesday 8th October - Friday 13th December  10 weeks
UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD’S REPORT CARDS

As shared before, students and teachers this year have been working with the Australian Curriculum, as interpreted through Queensland’s C2C curriculum resources. Whilst the Australian Curriculum is similar in many respects to the previous Queensland curriculum, there are some differences which have required adjustments. For example, some concepts are covered earlier than previously expected, there is a stronger focus on specific areas and in some cases a different standard of work is expected of students.

For Semester 1 report cards, teachers are evaluating student work based on C2C units and assessments tasks from Term 1 and 2 in English, Maths, Science and History. This is the first assessment period following implementation of a new History curriculum; report card results may also reflect students’ "learning curve" in terms of the change in expectations for learning in their year level.

This is not cause for concern, as teachers are adapting and adjusting their teaching/learning to ensure that students receive the necessary prior knowledge and are support-ed through their learning tasks. However, it is worth noting the fact that report card results in English, Maths, Science and History are based on the content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland are gradually becoming more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools. The new system Queensland State schools are using refers to alignment standards called "benchmarks of achievement" or "criteria." So what makes an "A," "B," "C" etc is predetermined by a scale of achievement (refer below). Any student, who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade.

As shared previously in the newsletter this is what you could consider a “C” (or Sound or Working With) really means:

A “C” means that the student has met the criteria for a learner to be at the appropriate age level.

A “C” means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level at school.

The best description is to say that a “C” means that the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be.

*That means attaining a “C” for Achievement means you are ON TARGET for your age level!*

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B”. These grades are not awarded simply to the top students in the class. They are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria required for their Year Level.

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**Student Of The Week**

**Joshua Matheson— For Improvement in Homework.**

**Jordan Rowe—Improved attitude towards school & academic success.**

*Well done Everyone!*

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**Happy Birthday**

**Tom Neve—Tuesday 9th July**

**Joshua Jackson—Wednesday 10th July**

**Lyndon Urquhart, Fraser Blyton, Mrs McQuillan—Thursday 11th July**
DATES TO REMEMBER

Callide Valley Athletics Trials—Friday 21st June
   Last day of Term 2—Friday 21st June
   First day of Term 3—Monday 8th July
NAIDOC Week—Monday 8th—Sunday 14th
Rockhampton Girls Grammar Performance—Tuesday 9th July
Year 7 Visit—Wednesday 10th July
Anzac Club Raffle—Friday 2nd August
4-7 Camp Departure—Sunday 18th August

INCLUDED IN THIS LETTER:

• Report Cards
• 4-7 Camp Booklet